



**New Prices  
Effective  
May 1, 2010**

## Martin Cleaning Service

**Carpet & Upholstery  
Cleaning  
Residential &  
Commercial Services**  
Minimum Service CHG.  
\$45.00

A small distance/travel charge  
may be applied

**CARPET CLEANING**  
2 Cleaning Areas or  
more \$30.00 Each Area  
Pre-Spray Traffic Areas  
(Includes: 1 small Hallway)

1 Cleaning Area (only)  
\$40.00  
Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area  
(Hallway Extra)

Stairs (12-16 stairs - With  
Other Services): \$25.00

Area/Oriental Rugs:  
\$25.00 Minimum  
Area/Oriental Rugs (Wool):  
\$40.00 Minimum

Heavily Soiled Area:  
Additional \$10.00 each area  
(Requiring Extensive Pre-Spraying)

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Loveseat: \$49.00  
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Chair or Recliner:  
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### ADDITIONAL SERVICES

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- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
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Odor Treatment
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- Scotchguard Protection
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# OPINION

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## Budget Cuts Don't Touch War Funding

### Bring troops and \$170 billion home

BY PHYLLIS BENNIS

No U.S. troops were killed in Iraq last month. So why aren't we celebrating? Because the war isn't over yet, and it costs way too much in both Iraqi lives and our money.

With so much attention and so many billions of our tax dollars shifting from Iraq to the devastating and ever more expensive war in Afghanistan, it's too easy to forget that there are still almost 50,000 U.S. troops occupying Iraq.

We're still paying almost \$50 billion a year for the Iraq War. And while we don't hear about it very often, too many Iraqis are still being killed.



There's an awful lot of discussion underway about the supposedly massive Pentagon budget cuts that are looming as part of a new deficit deal. But those potential cuts don't even touch the actual war funding — \$48 billion for Iraq and \$122 billion for Afghanistan, this year alone.

Imagine what we could do with those funds. We could create and fund new middle-class green jobs for 3.4 million workers, and many of the thousands of soldiers we could bring home from those useless wars could get some of those jobs.

Barack Obama, back when he was a presidential candidate, promised he would end the Iraq War. In 2002, he called it "a dumb war." The U.S. role in the war has gotten smaller, but it isn't over — and it hasn't gotten any smarter.

Last year, Obama said all combat operations in Iraq were about to end. But 50,000 or so troops are still there, training Iraqi security forces and, oh yes, conducting counterterrorism operations. Don't "counterterrorism operations" count as combat?

Even worse, the Obama administration, following George W. Bush's footsteps, seems committed to keeping U.S. troops in Iraq beyond the Dec. 31 deadline the U.S. and Iraqi governments agreed to back in 2008. That agreement was supposed to be absolute — all U.S. troops had to leave by the end of this year.

There were loopholes, of course. The agreement said all Pentagon-paid military contractors had to leave too, but didn't mention those paid by the State Department. So guess which agency is taking over the check-writing to pay the thousands

of mercenaries preparing to stay in Iraq for the long haul?

Washington is ratcheting up the pressure on Iraq's weak and corrupt government, pushing Baghdad's leadership to "invite" U.S. troops to stay just a little bit longer. Iraq's elected parliament, like the vast majority of the Iraqi people, wants all the troops out.

But democratic accountability doesn't seem to operate any better in Iraq than it does here in the United States. So the Iraqi cabinet made its own decision, without any messy consultations with the parliament, to "open negotiations" with Washington over how many U.S. troops would continue occupying the country, but for how long?

The Iraq War isn't over, and we still can't afford dumb wars.

Phyllis Bennis is a fellow of the Institute for Policy Studies.

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